

## **Park Impact Fees**

The Georgia Development Impact Fee Act allows impact fees to be collected to finance “parks, open space, and recreation areas and related facilities.” Fees are collected at the time of issuance of building permits and are intended to transfer part of the burden of providing expanded public facilities to service new development from the City to the developer. For parks, the City is divided into three separate service areas (North, South, West), each with its own impact fee rate. A service area map will be available soon.

*Amount:* Amount varies. Estimated annual additions per service area are as follows:

North: \$300,000-\$400,000

South: \$50,000

West: \$0

*Greenspace Definition:* Parks (block, neighborhood and community parks; conservation parks and nature preserves; golf courses), open space, and recreation areas and related facilities.

*Goals:*

- To the extent that recoupment fees are not necessary to reimburse the City for transportation impact fee exemptions, the City shall only use park impact fee revenues to fund projects that meet *all* of the following criteria:
  1. The project is identified in the CDP; and
  2. The project will expand the capacity of the City’s park system so as to accommodate future development, and is identified as such in the City’s Capital Improvements Program; and
  3. The project involves the acquisition and/or development of parkland, rather than the construction of recreation facilities.
- The City shall assign priority to projects for which City funds will leverage equal or greater amounts of state, federal, and/or private funds.
- The City shall reserve three percent (3 percent) of park impact fee revenues for the purpose of funding administrative costs associated with the collection and use of said revenues.
- Cluster major recreational facilities in larger, centralized community parks.

*Limitations:* Does not cover recreational facility costs, maintenance, etc.

*Public Access Type:* Passive to heavy outdoor recreation (includes golfing, passive hiking, and simple enjoyment of conservation or natural areas).